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(54) Clothing having two tube-shaped parts

(57) The tube-shaped parts may be trouser legs or sleeves. The trouser leg 2, e.g. of a pair of sports overtrousers includes two diametrically spaced apart female press-stud parts 4 which are fixed on an inside surface of the trouser leg, towards the bottom end 10 thereof. Two diametrically spaced apart male press-stud parts 6 are fixed to the inside surface of the trouser leg directly above the press-stud parts 4 and equidistantly spaced therefrom. Additionally, two diametrically spaced apart male press-stud parts 8 are fixed directly above the male press-stud parts 6 and are equidistantly spaced therefrom. The press-stud parts 4, 6 and 8 may be used to adjust the length of the trouser leg between three predetermined lengths. The press-studs may be replaced by hook-and-loop type fasteners.

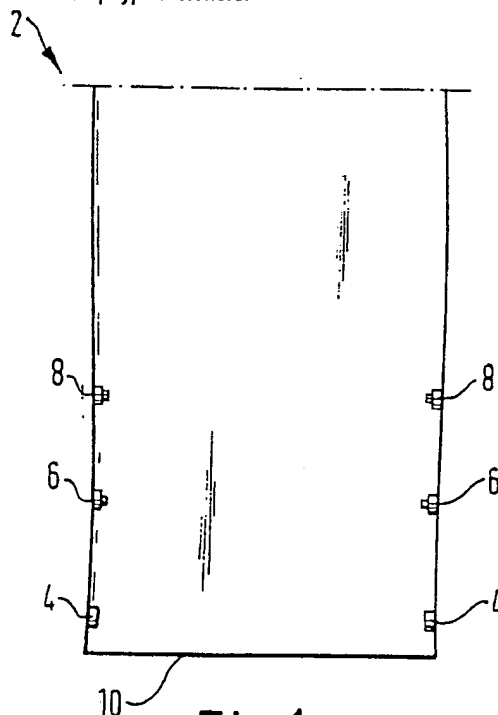
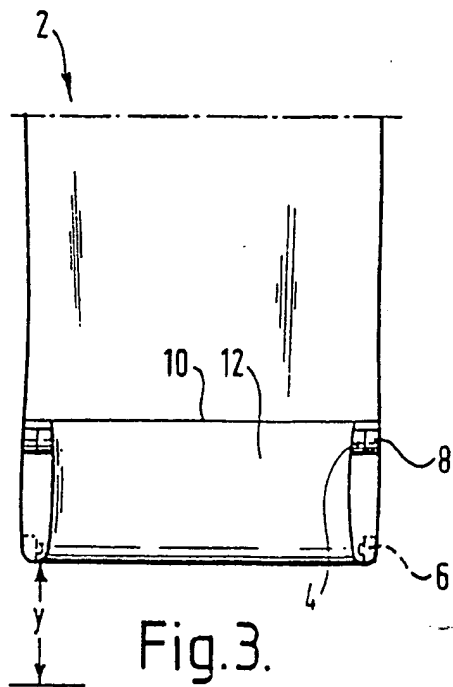
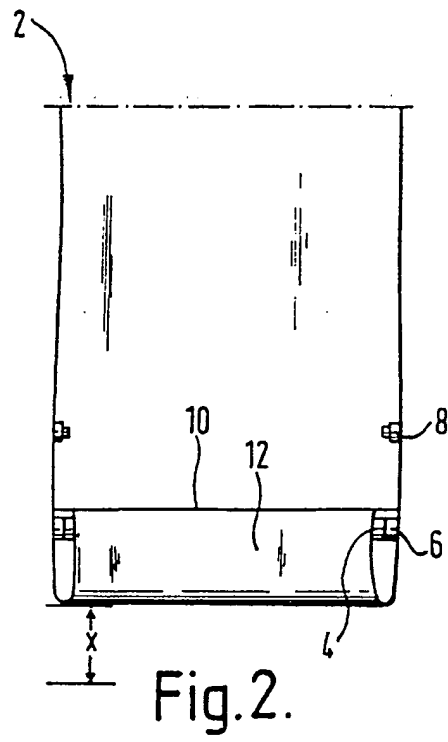
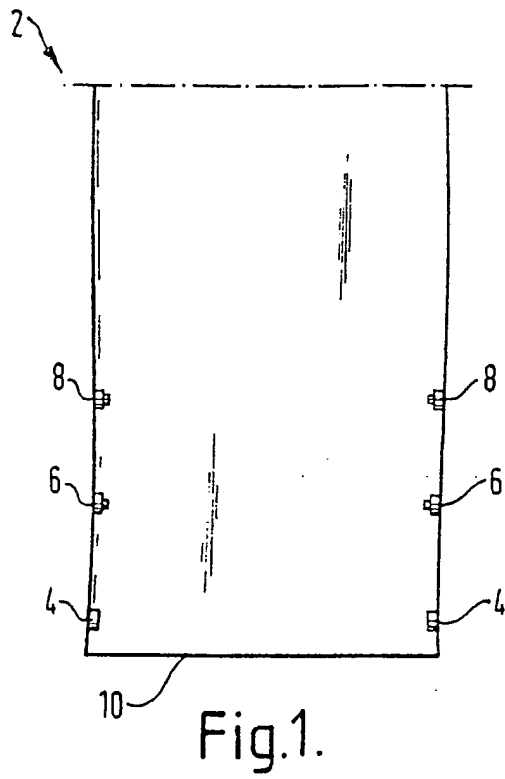


Fig.1.

At least one drawing originally filed was informal and the print reproduced here is taken from a later filed formal copy.

The claims were filed later than the filing date within the period prescribed by Rule 25(1) of the Patents Rules 1990.

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ARTICLES OF CLOTHING

This invention relates to articles of clothing and particularly, although not exclusively, to articles of sports clothing, for example, golfer's over trousers.

Over trousers (i.e. trousers which a person wears over another pair of shorts or trousers) are well known. Such trousers may serve a protective function, for example against the wet, or may simply be used to keep a person warm. At the present time, over trousers are supplied in many different fixed sizes. This makes it necessary for manufacturers to make and for shops to stock a wide range of trousers of different sizes.

It is an object of the present invention to reduce the number of different sizes of certain articles of clothing which it is necessary for a manufacturer to produce and for a shop proprietor to stock.

According to a first aspect of the invention, there is provided an article of clothing which comprises two tube shaped parts, (for example in the form of trouser legs) each of which is adjustable in length between a first length and a second length, a respective securement means being provided for releasably securing each tube shaped part at at least one of either said first length or said second length.

Thus, the length of, for example, the trouser legs of such an article of clothing may readily be adjusted, as and when required.

Preferably, said second length is less than said first length. When the tube shaped parts are arranged to

define said first length, suitably, the securement means is not operative - that is, the first length may represent the unadjusted length. Said securement means is preferably arranged to releasably secure the tube shaped parts at said second length.

Said securement means may be arranged to releasably secure the tube shaped parts at a plurality of different, preferably predetermined, lengths. The securement means may be arranged to releasably secure the tube shaped parts at a third length which is suitably less than both said second length and said first length. Said first, second and/or third lengths are preferably predetermined. However, the securement means may be arranged to releasably secure the tube shaped parts at intermediate lengths between said first, second and/or third lengths.

Said securement means are preferably provided on an inside surface of said tube shaped parts.

Said securement means preferably include at least two co-operable securement parts which are suitably longitudinally spaced apart and suitably disposed in a longitudinally extending straight line.

Said at least two co-operable securement parts preferably comprise a male and female part. Said at least two co-operable parts may comprise a male press-stud part and a female press-stud part.

Alternatively, said two co-operable securement parts may comprise two co-operable Velcro (Trade Mark) securement parts.

Said securement means may comprise three or more longitudinally spaced apart securement parts, as described above. In this case, a first securement part which may be one of either a male or female securement part is suitably provided closest to an open end of the tube shaped part and two securement parts each of which comprises a second securement part, for example the other one of either a male or female securement part, are provided at locations which are longitudinally spaced from said open end. The three securement parts are suitably disposed in a longitudinally extending straight line.

The securement parts of the securement means are preferably substantially permanently fixed to said tube shaped parts in the sense that they cannot readily be removed therefrom.

A plurality of securement means as described above may be provided at circumferentially spaced positions on the inside surface of the tube shaped parts. At least two securement means are suitably provided at circumferentially spaced positions. Preferably, in this case, at least two of said securement means are substantially diametrically spaced apart.

Said article of clothing is preferably an article of sports clothing. Said article of clothing is preferably a pair of sports trousers, for example, over trousers.

Specific embodiments of the invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying diagrammatic drawings, in which :

Figure 1 is a longitudinal cross-section through a part of a trouser leg;

Figures 2 and 3 are views of the trouser leg of Figure 1 with the trouser leg shortened by different amounts.

5       The tube shaped trouser leg 2, shown in Figure 1, includes two diametrically spaced apart female press-stud parts 4 which are fixed on an inside surface of the trouser leg, towards the bottom end 10 thereof. Two diametrically spaced apart male press-stud parts are fixed  
10 to the inside surface of the trouser leg directly above the press-stud parts 4 and equidistantly spaced therefrom. Additionally, two diametrically spaced apart male press-stud parts 8 are fixed directly above the male press-stud parts 6 and are equidistantly spaced therefrom.

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      The inside leg measurement of a pair of trousers incorporating two trouser legs 2 as described above, may easily be adjusted between three predetermined lengths, as follows. Firstly, none of the press-stud parts 4, 6, 8  
20 may be engaged with one another, in which case each trouser leg is arranged as in Figure 1. Secondly, as shown in Figure 2, the bottom end 10 of the trouser leg 2 may be turned inwardly and urged upwardly within the trouser leg 2, until the end 10 is at such a level that  
25 the female press-stud parts 4 can be engaged with respective male press-stud parts 6. When press-stud parts 4, 6 are engaged, the inside leg length measurement is reduced by a length "x". Thirdly, as shown in Figure 3, the bottom end 10 of the trouser leg 2 may be turned  
30 inwardly and urged upwardly within the trouser leg so that the female press-stud parts 4 can be engaged with the male press-stud parts 8. When press-stud parts 4, 8 are engaged, the inside leg length measurement is reduced by a length "y".

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It will be appreciated that, since the male and female press-stud parts are releasably securable, the length of the trouser may readily be adjusted as may be required.

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The press-stud parts are suitably longitudinally spaced apart by a distance of about 4 inches (10cm). In this case, therefore, "x" will be about 2 inches (5cm) and "y" will be about 4 inches (10cm).

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It will be appreciated that the press-stud parts 4, 6, 8 may be longitudinally spaced apart any suitable distance and any number of such parts may be provided. It has been found that engagement of only two diametrically spaced apart press-stud parts is sufficient to hold turned-up portion 12 in position. However, three or more circumferentially spaced apart press-stud parts may be provided if desired.

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The invention described may be particularly utility in relation to sports trousers, for example, golfers trousers, since such trousers need not be adjusted as accurately as would be necessary for formal dress trousers.

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The invention may also be of utility in shortening the lengths of sleeves of articles of clothing.

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The reader's attention is directed to all papers and documents which are filed concurrently with or previous to this specification in connection with this application and which are open to public inspection with this specification, and the contents of all such papers and documents are incorporated herein by reference.

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All of the features disclosed in this specification (including any accompanying claims, abstract and drawings), and/or all of the steps of any method or process so disclosed, may be combined in any combination, except combinations where at least some of such features and/or steps are mutually exclusive.

Each feature disclosed in this specification (including any accompanying claims, abstract and drawings), may be replaced by alternative features serving the same, equivalent or similar purpose, unless expressly stated otherwise. Thus, unless expressly stated otherwise, each feature disclosed is one example only of a generic series of equivalent or similar features.

The invention is not restricted to the details of the foregoing embodiment(s). The invention extends to any novel one, or any novel combination, of the features disclosed in this specification (including any accompanying claims, abstract and drawings), or to any novel one, or any novel combination, of the steps of any method or process so disclosed.



CLAIMS

1. An article of clothing which comprises two tube-shaped parts, for example in the form of trouser legs,  
5 each of which tube-shaped parts is adjustable in length between a first length and a second length, a respective securement means being provided for releasably securing each tube-shaped part at at least one of either said first length or said second length.
- 10 2. An article according to Claim 1, wherein the first length represents the unadjusted length.
3. An article according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein  
15 said securement means is arranged to releasably secure the tube-shaped parts at said second length.
4. An article according to any preceding claim, wherein said securement means is arranged to releasably secure the  
20 tube-shaped parts at a plurality of different lengths.
5. An article according to Claim 4, wherein said plurality of different lengths are predetermined.
- 25 6. An article according to any preceding claim, wherein said securement means is provided on an inside surface of said tube-shaped parts.
7. An article according to any preceding claim, wherein  
30 said securement means include at least two co-operable securement parts.
8. An article according to Claim 7, wherein said two co-operable securement parts are longitudinally spaced apart.

9. An article according to Claim 7 or Claim 8, wherein said at least two co-operable securement parts comprise a male and a female part.
- 5 10. An article according to any preceding claim, wherein a plurality of securement means are provided at circumferentially spaced positions on the inside surface of the tube-shaped parts.
- 10 11. An article according to Claim 10, wherein at least two of said securement means are substantially diametrically spaced apart.
12. An article according to any preceding claim, wherein  
15 the article is an article of sports clothing.
13. An article according to any preceding claim, wherein said article is a pair of sports trousers.
- 20 14. An article of clothing substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying diagrammatic drawings.

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**Patents Act 1977**  
**Examiner's report to the Comptroller under**  
**Section 17 (The Search Report)**

Application number

GB 9204157.3

**Relevant Technical fields**

(i) UK CI (Edition L ) A3V

(ii) Int CI (Edition 5 ) A41D

**Search Examiner**

D BUCKLEY

**Databases (see over)**

(i) UK Patent Office

(ii)

**Date of Search**

14.4.93

Documents considered relevant following a search in respect of claims 1 TO 14

Category (see over)	Identity of document and relevant passages	Relevant to claim(s)
X	GB 2056845 A (MIELE) whole document	1 to 13
X	GB 1598890 (JENKINS) whole document	1 to 13
X	GB 1268156 (FELDSER) whole document but see especially figures 2 and 4	1 to 13
X	WO 88/10074 A1 (PATTERSON) whole document	1 to 8
X	US 4149275 (SANCHEZ) whole document	1 to 13

Category	Identity of document and relevant passages	Relevant to claim(s)

#### Categories of documents

X: Document indicating lack of novelty or of inventive step.

Y: Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of the same category.

A: Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.

P: Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of the present application.

E: Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of the present application.

&: Member of the same patent family, corresponding document.

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